(d) As assessed by various Committees the possibility of similar occurrences in the nearby areas cannot be ruled out.

Export of wheat below world prices

1678. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has been exporting wheat at well below world prices as reported in the Indian Express, dated 21st May, 1996;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether USA, Morocco and Turkey rejected Indian wheat consignments on ground of fungus infection as reported in the Financial Express, dated 21st May, 1996; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) and (b) It is not possible to accurately compare the prices of commodities traded by various countries in the international markets on account of different varieties traded, variations in quality and additional expenditure incurred in grading and packaging for exports.

(c) and (d) A small number of consignments of wheat from India were detained by the Turkish, Moroccan and Polish authorities as they were found to be infected by Tilletia Indica (Karnal Bunt) fungus.

Criteria for allocation of foodgains etc. to the states under PDS

1679. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the various factors which are taken into consideration for the allocation of foodgrains, imported edible oil and soft coke for Public Distribution System of the States;

(b) the details of allocations of foodgrains, sugar, imported edible oil and soft coke made to the State of Maharashtra during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that one percent increase each in allocation during 1996-97 over the year 1995-96 was made for the State;

(d) if so, whether Government purpose to increase it further in 1996-97 and 1997-98; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) Allocation of foodgrains for the Public Distribution System (PDS) from the Central Pool is made on month to month basis taking into account availability of stocks in the Central Pool, inter-se demands of the States/UTs, market availability of commodities, offtake trends and other related factors.

(b) The details of allocation of foodgrains, sugar, imported edible oil and soft coke made to the State of

Maharashtra during the last three years is as follows:

Government drug addiction rehabilitation centres.

(in 000 MTs)

Commodities	Year		
	93-94	94-95	95-96
Rice	858	858	858
Wheat	960	960	960
Sugar	386.23	368.48	383.88
Imported Edible Oil	2.60	12.50	30.00
soft Coke/ CIL Coke	24.00	24.00	24.00

(c) to (e) Increase in allocation by 1 per cent over the allocation for the previous year is adopted for kerosene only. States having per capita availability of SKO less than national average, are given higher increase as to reduce the disparity in the availability of SKO among different States/UTs in course of time. Maharashtras per capita availability is much higher than the national average.

Treatment of sex workers having HIV infection in drug rehabilitation centers

1680. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether sex workers who are HIV petients are not admitted in Government drug addiction rehabilitation centres for treatment; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to open separate centres for treatment of sex workers who test HIV Positive?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): (a) and (b) According to the information made available by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, patients who are HIV positive whether they are sex workers or otherwise, are admitted for treatment in

Mining lease for chrome ore in sukhinda mines in Orissa

1681. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether close on the heels of the controversial mining lease of Bailadilla in Madhya Pradesh another mining lease for chrome ore in Sukhinda mines in Cuttack district of Orissa has been made;

(b) if so, the terms of the Sukhinda mining lease; and

(c) the procedure followed in granting the lease, indicating the details of competitive tenders received for this lease from different parties;

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) to (c) The Hon'ble High Court of Orissa disposed of writ petitions OJC No. 7729/93 and OJC No. 4701/94 filed by TISCO against orders of the Central Government conveying approval of 2nd renewal of mining lease for chromite over the reduced area in Sukhinda Vally of Orissa and a series of other writ petitions filed by other parties vide its common